



## **SCVWD Water Reliability Program WIFIA Loan Application**

**Title:** Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit  
Project Description

**File Name:** A.3\_Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit  
Project Description

**Description:** Project description for the Anderson  
Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and its associated FERC  
sub-projects, the Coyote Chillers and Coyote  
Percolation Dam

**April 2022**

## ANDERSON DAM SEISMIC RETROFIT – Project Description

The Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project will result in a seismically safer dam that maximizes water supply and groundwater recharge capacity and benefits, while also improving the operational flexibility to minimize the risk of reservoir spill and minimize downstream flooding, provide in-stream environmental flows consistent with regulatory requirements, and contribute to recreational opportunities.

Aerial view of Anderson Dam, spillway, and part of the reservoir



With a total storage capacity of approximately 90,000 acre-feet, Anderson Reservoir is the largest of Valley Water's 10 reservoirs and provides a reliable supply of water to Santa Clara County. The reservoir is an important water source for treatment plants and the recharge of the groundwater basin. Anderson Dam, situated in Morgan Hill, was built in 1950 to the seismic and dam safety standards of the day. Studies have shown that a large earthquake could damage the dam, causing an uncontrolled release of water that could inundate cities and rural areas more than 30 miles northwest to San Francisco Bay (including much of Silicon Valley) and more than 40 miles southeast to Monterey Bay.

The project was initiated in January 2011 after an initial seismic study. Valley Water has maintained the reservoir at a restricted capacity approved by DSOD since that time. In February 2020, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) ordered



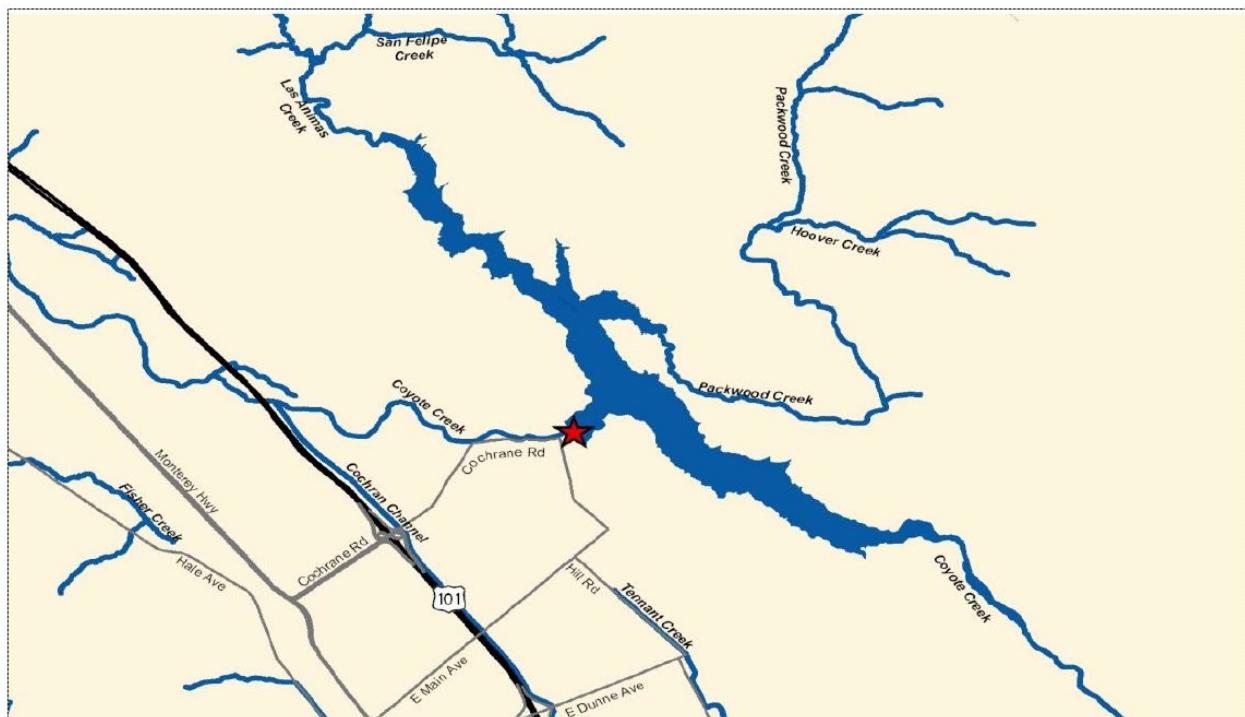
Valley Water to drain the reservoir to deadpool, prioritize work on the design and construction of a new low-level outlet tunnel allowing for greater controlled releases of water, and ensure that design and permitting of the project happen in a timely manner.

In accordance with federal regulations, the project also includes the construction of subprojects pursuant to FERC directives. These FERC subprojects are:

- Coyote Percolation Dam Replacement (*included in WIFIA application*);
- Coyote Creek Stream Augmentation Fish Protection (*included in WIFIA application*).
- Anderson Dam Tunnel Project (*not included in WIFIA application*);
- Cross Valley Pipeline Extension (*not included in WIFIA application*);
- Coyote Creek Flood Management Measure Project (CCFMMP) (*not included in WIFIA application*)

Only the Coyote Percolation Dam Replacement / Chillers and Coyote Creek Stream Augmentation Fish Protection subprojects and related costs are being included in the WIFIA application. The other three subprojects have either already awarded a construction contract that doesn't include the necessary WIFIA federal compliance criteria or does not align with the WIFIA funding schedule.

## PROJECT LOCATION



★ Project Location